



**Members of the AMS Center's water stakeholder committee listened to speakers describe key environmental issues.**

## Stakeholders Learn About Northeast Issues and Needs

More than 60 people heard federal, state, regional, and local experts discuss the northeast's key environmental issues and technology needs at the meeting of the Advanced Monitoring Systems (AMS) Center's air and water stakeholder committees, October 12-13, at Vergennes, VT.

Members of the stakeholder committees represent diverse groups, including federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; private industry; academia; trade and professional associations; consulting firms; environmental organizations; and the regulated and investment communities. They assist the AMS Center by presenting perspectives on important environmental issues, identifying needed monitoring technologies, serving as observers during verification tests, and reviewing draft protocols, test plans and reports.

The AMS Center's stakeholder committee meetings are held in locations around the country so regional and local leaders in environmental monitoring can be invited to give presentations. This approach has mutual benefits. Stakeholders get an opportunity to interact with area environmental experts who describe their programs, major regional technology needs, and key issues. Invited

### Sample Comments from Stakeholders' Surveys ...

#### General comments:

"The meeting format and process were 'superb.'"  
"This was the best (meeting) I've attended so far."  
"Really liked the combination of local monitoring information and verification (test) informational discussion."  
"I am continuously impressed with how much information can be conveyed in 1 ½ days of meetings."  
"Excellent group dynamics."

#### Most valuable part of the meeting?

"Meeting extraordinarily conversant experts."  
"Local speakers – good to hear different perspectives, and problems other states face."  
"Really enjoyed presentations of area experts."  
"To find out the performance of different instruments."  
"To interact with state air quality staff and understand trends and needs."  
"It's interesting to see how a companion group addresses the ETV process."  
"Lessons learned from past verification testing."

#### Did meeting meet expectations?

"Yes, excellent sharing of information."  
"Yes, we had a number of interesting discussions on current air quality issues and ETV tests."

#### How to improve next meeting?

"Best meeting of any I attend . . ."  
"Bring in more regulatory agency representatives to talk about TMDLs (total maximum daily load) and how they drive technology R&D."  
"Maybe an hour-long session to share technology needs and cross fertilization would be helpful."

speakers and observers learn about the ETV program and the AMS Center's progress and plans. For a sampling of the stakeholders' comments on the meeting, see the sidebar above.

*See Stakeholders on page 2*



**The AMS Center is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Technology Verification Program. ETV was established to accelerate the development and commercialization of improved environmental technologies through third-party verification testing and reporting of the technologies' performance. The ETV process provides purchasers and permittees with an independent assessment of the technology they are buying or permitting and facilitates multi-state acceptance. For further information, contact Helen Latham at Battelle, 505 King Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43201-2693; Phone 614-424-4062; Fax 614-424-5601; E-mail [lathamh@battelle.org](mailto:lathamh@battelle.org).**



**Mary Watzin**



**Mike Barsotti**



**Dick Valentinetti**



**Geoff Dates**

## **Stakeholders**

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Among the meeting's observers were Mohd Foamey Yusoff and Che Asmah Ibrahim of the Malaysia Air Program; Peter Skinner from the New York State Attorney General's Office; Tom Gargan, Geo-Centers, Inc.; and Norm Beloin, air director, EPA Region 1.

Both joint and separate sessions were held for the air and water committees. The joint sessions' featured speakers were Gerry Livingston, interim research director of the Vermont Monitoring Cooperative, who described the interface between air and water monitoring; and Mary Watzin, chair of the Technical Advisory Committee, Lake Champlain Basin Program, whose topic was how to link efforts between the two media in monitoring air and water quality to assess ecosystem health.

In separate sessions, the air and water committees heard updates by Battelle staff about the AMS Center's plans for additional technology verification tests and media-specific presentations by additional guest speakers from the region.

Valentinetti, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, state air monitoring needs; Ernest Bouffard (AMS Center stakeholder), Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Connecticut air monitoring needs—views from a permit engineer; Tim Hanley (AMS Center stakeholder), EPA, and John Bosch, EPA, national regulations—what's coming.

**Water Committee.** Speakers and topics were: Eric Smeltzer, state limnologist, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, monitoring progress in reducing phosphorus in Lake Champlain; Geoff Dates (AMS Center stakeholder), River Network, citizen water quality monitoring programs; Jamie Shanley, USGS-Montpelier, an automatic technique for capturing stream water quality dynamics during storms; and James Fay and Mike Barsotti, Lake Champlain Water District, Lake Champlain Water District's treatment optimization program.

## **Additional Verification Tests Are in Queue:**

November, December, and January are expected to be busy months for the AMS Center's verification test coordinators. Here is a summary of what's coming and whom to contact for further information.

**Optical open-path monitors.** A fifth company—Spectrex, Cedar Grove, NJ—completed this test for two of its instruments in early November. The verification test reports are being drafted. Contact: Jeff Myers, 614-424-7705 or [myersjd@battelle.org](mailto:myersjd@battelle.org).

**Ambient fine particulate monitors.** The second phase of this test is expected to start in mid-December and continue through January at an EPA SuperSite in Fresno, CA. Seven vendors with 13 monitors are expected to participate. The first phase began in late July and was completed in early September at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory in Pittsburgh, PA. Contact Ken Cowen, 614-424-5547 or [cowenk@battelle.org](mailto:cowenk@battelle.org).

**Turbidimeters.** A fourth company—ABB, Lombard, IL—is expected to have an instrument tested in December. Contact: Ken Cowen (see above).

**Multi-parameter water probes.** Seven vendor representatives are expected to attend a vendor meeting in December at Battelle's facilities in Columbus, OH, to provide input to the verification test/QA plan. Contact: Jeff Myers (see above).

**Mercury CEMs.** Five vendors are expected to participate in the first phase of the verification test of commercially available continuous emission monitors (CEMs) for mercury, which is scheduled to begin in January. The test is to be held at the Rotary Kiln Incinerator Simulator (RKIS), a pilot-scale combustion facility at EPA's National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) at Research Triangle Park, NC. Battelle expects to conduct Phase 2 at a full-scale facility in 2001.

Contact: Tom Kelly, 614-424-3495 or [kellyt@battelle.org](mailto:kellyt@battelle.org).

**On-board vehicle emission monitors.** A test/QA plan has been drafted for a verification test with gasoline-powered vehicles. The vendor has postponed testing while developing a monitor applicable to diesel-powered vehicles. Additional vehicles are welcome. Contact Tom Kelly (see above).

Battelle is also considering conducting a verification test of pathogen detectors. These instruments rapidly monitor biological contamination in the field. Vendors or developers with commercially ready pathogen detectors should contact Tom Kelly.